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Development of pollutant build-up parameters for MIKE URBAN for Southeast Queensland, Australia

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Abstract: Accurate estimation of input parameters is essential to ensure the accuracy and reliability of hydrologic and water quality modelling. Calibration is an approach to obtain accurate input parameters for comparing observed and simulated results. However, the calibration approach is limited as it is only applicable to catchments where monitoring data is available. Therefore, methodology to estimate appropriate model input parameters is critical, particularly for catchments where monitoring data is not available. In the research study discussed in the paper, pollutant build-up parameters derived from catchment field investigations and model calibration using MIKE URBAN are compared for three catchments in Southeast Queensland, Australia. Additionally, the sensitivity of MIKE URBAN input parameters was analysed. It was found that Reduction Factor is the most sensitive parameter for peak flow and total runoff volume estimation whilst Build-up rate is the most sensitive parameter for TSS load estimation. Consequently, these input parameters should be determined accurately in hydrologic and water quality simulations using MIKE URBAN. Furthermore, an empirical equation for Southeast Queensland, Australia for the conversion of build-up parameters derived from catchment field investigations as MIKE URBAN input build-up parameters was derived. This will provide guidance for allowing for regional variations in the estimation of input parameters for catchment modelling using MIKE URBAN where monitoring data is not available.

Keywords: MIKE URBAN; Stormwater quality modelling; Pollutant build-up

1 Introduction

Hydrologic and water quality modelling are important in urban stormwater management. Modelling results are used to characterise the urban runoff, provide input to receiving water analysis, determine impacts, sizes and combinations of stormwater treatment devices, and provide guidance to urban planning and development and contribute to improving urban water quality (Huber 1986). Consequently, the accuracy and reliability of modelling outcomes play an essential role in decision-making in relation to stormwater management (Huber 1986, Tsihrintzis and Hamid 1997) .

The hydrologic and water quality modelling are two important processes which are generally viewed as quantity and quality simulations. In terms of quantity simulation, it primarily includes rainfall input, runoff routing on the catchment

surfaces and the flow into the drainage system (Beven 2001). Water quality simulation include the pollutants build-up on catchment surfaces during dry periods and the wash-off during rainfall events, followed by the transport into the drainage system and subsequently to the catchment outlet. Different mathematical approaches and process equations are employed to describe the corresponding simulation processes. For example, the time-area method and the exponential build-up equation are two typical mathematical approaches for hydrologic and water quality simulations respectively. The time-area method simulates the flow at the catchment outlet based on the variation of the contributing area with time (Shaw 1983) while the exponential build-up equation describes the pollutants accumulation on catchment surfaces during the dry period. The accumulation process can be described as pollutants build-up at a high rate during the initial period, followed by a reduction in the rate, and finally asymptote to a threshold value (Vaze and Chiew 2002). The exponential build-up equation (MIKE URBAN 2008) can be represented as follow:

$$M = \frac{A}{D} \times (1 - e^{-Dt}) \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

M - accumulated mass of pollutants at time t (g/m^2)

t - antecedent dry days (d)

A - the daily accumulation rate ($g/m^2/d$)

D - removal coefficient (d^{-1})

The coefficient D represents the removal of pollutants from the surfaces by various mechanisms such as wind, traffic, street sweeping, biological and chemical degradation, except stormwater wash-off. The accumulated mass M will increase until A/D limit is reached and the maximum M is defined as Max. build-up.

All models require a number of input parameters. The accuracy of modelling results significantly depends on how well the input parameters describe the corresponding processes (FitzHugh and Mackay 2000). These parameters generally involve catchment characteristics, antecedent dry days, pollutants build-up and wash-off on catchment surfaces and rainfall characteristics (Zoppou 2001). Parameters related to catchment and rainfall characteristics primarily affect the hydrologic simulations while the parameters relating to antecedent dry days and pollutants build-up and wash-off influence the water quality simulations.

Calibration is an approach to derive appropriate input parameters for modelling. It requires that long-term rainfall-runoff and water quality data is available for the simulated catchment. These input parameters are adjusted until there is an acceptable agreement between simulated and measured results (Baffaut and Delleur 1990, Henriksen et al. 2003). A successful catchment monitoring program requires well designed and managed field studies over a number of years (Schueler et al. 1991, Urbonas 2000) as the data generated from a catchment monitoring program can be impacted by the unpredictable behaviour of stormwater quality due to the highly variable nature of stormwater runoff (Miguntanna 2009b). Therefore, it is difficult to obtain a long-term dataset with high levels of statistical confidence for all catchments. In the case of catchments

where such data is not available, the required input parameters are usually obtained from existing models based on their similarities to a catchment which is being monitored. In this regard, the depth of experience and expertise of those undertaking the modelling is a key factor for reliable model outcomes (Beven 2001).

As Ahyerre et al. (1998) have pointed out, urban catchments including its hydrology and water quality characteristics are multifaceted since it concerns many media, space and time scales. Therefore, input parameter values can significantly vary between different areas. According to Sartor and Boyd (1972), pollutants build-up vary with the land use. Hence, different build-up parameter sets may be required to replicate pollutants accumulation in different land uses. In addition, as pollutants build-up can be influenced by a range of factors such as local traffic conditions, it has been recommended that pollutants build-up should not only be related simply to land use but also to other site specific characteristics (Novotny and Goodrich-Mahoney 1978).

It can be hypothesised that model parameters can be developed by detailed investigation of pollutant processes on catchment surfaces. This is particularly important for modelling catchments where monitoring data is not available. It can be generally considered that data collected from catchment investigations can represent the local characteristics such as land use and traffic conditions, which are closely related to hydrologic and water quality characteristics of the catchment. Therefore, the application of these data such as build-up data from catchment investigations in hydrologic and water quality modelling should enhance the accuracy of modelling results.

Therefore, it is critical that for modelling catchments where monitoring data is not available, methodology is available to determine input parameters based on catchment characteristics. This paper describes the development of a methodology for applying data from catchment investigations as input parameters for the MIKE URBAN model for water quality modelling. The research outcomes provide a generic approach for the application of catchment investigation data for modelling. The data derived in this research are build-up parameters, which are among the most important parameters in water quality modelling. In addition, a sensitivity analysis of MIKE URBAN model parameters was also performed to understand the relationship between input parameters and model output, prior to undertaking calibration.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Development of build-up parameters from catchment investigations

As discussed in Chapter 1, pollutants build-up varies with land use and specific site characteristics. Therefore, solids build-up on road surfaces was investigated based on three types of land use, including residential, commercial and industrial areas at Gold Coast, Southeast Queensland (SEQ), Australia. For each land use, four road surfaces were selected to allow for different site specific characteristics such as road surface conditions and traffic conditions. Two solids build-up samples were collected from a 3m² plot from each road surface representing two different antecedent dry periods. Consequently, a total of 24 solids build-up samples were collected from 12 road surfaces. The total solids (TS) load was obtained for each sample by adding the laboratory testing results for total

suspended solids (TSS) and total dissolved solids (TDS). TSS, TDS and TS load per unit area (g/m^2) was calculated by dividing the total loads by the 3m^2 collection area. Table 1 gives the TSS, TDS and TS loads collected from each road surface for the different land uses. The two collection dates on each road surface represent two different antecedent dry periods.

Table 1 Solids build-up for each road surface

Land use	Road names	Solids load (g/m^2)					
		2009-01-16, 8 dry days			2009-05-01, 17 dry days		
		TSS	TDS	TS	TSS	TDS	TS
Residential							
	Merloo Drive	0.25	0.09	0.34	1.01	0.26	1.27
	Yarrimbah Drive	2.02	0.14	2.16	0.60	0.27	0.87
	Winchester Drive	3.39	0.13	3.52	0.67	0.14	0.81
	Carine Court	1.94	0.10	2.04	0.99	0.18	1.17
		2009-12-06, 4 dry days			2009-04-24, 10 dry days		
Commercial		TSS	TDS	TS	TSS	TDS	TS
	Hobgen Street	1.46	0.16	1.62	0.42	0.11	0.53
	St Paul's Place	0.47	0.05	0.52	0.78	0.18	0.96
	Via Roma	1.07	0.00	1.07	0.67	0.14	0.81
	Thornton Street	1.31	0.43	1.74	0.91	0.27	1.18
		2009-07-19, 4 dry days			2009-02-08, 5 dry days		
Industrial		TSS	TDS	TS	TSS	TDS	TS
	Stevens Street	2.81	0.18	2.99	3.98	0.27	4.25
	Lawrence Drive	1.00	0.09	1.09	2.03	0.13	2.16
	Hilldon Court	1.82	0.12	1.94	1.02	0.06	1.08
	Patrick Road	2.19	0.00	2.19	2.14	0.10	2.24

According to Table 1, solids build-up curves can be developed for each road surface by fitting these measured TS loads to Equation 1. The larger value of the two TS data points on each road surface (such as 1.27 on Merloo Drive) was considered as the maximum build-up M while the other TS value with its antecedent dry period (such as 0.34 for 8 antecedent dry days on Merloo Drive) were input into Equation 1 as the solids build-up value in t time to calculate the removal coefficient D . The accumulation rate A was determined by multiplying the maximum build-up M by the removal coefficient D . Consequently, 12 build-up parameters sets (A , D and M) were generated for the 12 road surfaces in three land use types. The A , D and M were grouped respectively as the range based on three land use types.

2.2 Model description

2.2.1 MIKE URBAN

MIKE URBAN is developed by the Danish Hydraulic Institute (DHI) (MIKE URBAN 2008) which is an integration of mathematical modelling procedures developed for hydrologic, hydraulic and water quality simulations. MIKE URBAN supplies two engines, MOUSE and SWMM5, for modelling hydraulic, hydrology and water quality phenomena. In this research study, MOUSE was selected as the modelling tool as it provides a comprehensive approach for modelling hydrology, hydraulics and stormwater quality (MIKE URBAN 2008). In the research study, the time-area method was selected as the hydrologic modelling approach due to its

simplicity, but at the same time the ability to provide relatively accurate results. In terms of water quality simulation, MIKE URBAN uses Equation 1 for replicating pollutants build-up.

2.2.2 Input parameters

There are a number of input parameters needed by MIKE URBAN for hydrologic, hydraulic and water quality modelling. However, not all parameters have to be adjusted during calibration. Based on the review of previously used calibration parameters (Artina et al. 2007, Thorndahl et al. 2008, Thorndahl and Schaarup-Jensen 2008) and documentation from MIKE URBAN manuals (2008), eight parameters were typically considered in the calibration process. These parameters are listed in Table 2. Due to the importance of these eight parameters in calibration, they were also selected for sensitivity analysis undertaken as part of the research study.

Table2 Parameters for sensitivity analysis and calibration in MIKE URBAN

Module	Parameters	Descriptions	Default values
Hydrologic module	Initial Loss (m)	Initial moisture content on catchment surfaces	5×10^{-4}
	Reduction Factor	The ratio of directly connected impervious surfaces and the total impervious surfaces	0.9
	Time of Concentration (min)	The time needed for water to flow from the most remote point in a watershed to the watershed outlet	7
Hydraulic module	Pipe Manning	Pipe roughness	75
Water quality module	Build-up Rate ($\text{g/m}^2/\text{day}$)	Pollutants accumulation rate on catchment surfaces	5
	Max. Build-up (g/m^2)	The threshold of pollutants build-up	50
	Detachment Rate(m/h)	Detachment coefficient for rainfall	1×10^{-4}
	Wash-off Exponent	Describe wash-off process	2

2.3 Study catchments

Three urban residential catchments, namely, Birdlife Park, Alextown and Gumbeel were selected for modelling as these three catchments have the long-term rainfall-runoff and water quality monitoring data. They are located at Gold Coast, SEQ, Australia. The locations of these three catchments are shown in Figure 2 below. Birdlife Park catchment (8.5 ha) consists of single detached dwellings while Alextown catchment (1.8 ha) is a tenement townhouse development with roughly 60 properties and Gumbeel catchment (1.2 ha) has 20 dual occupancy residences.

2.4 Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity analysis undertaken aimed to study the variation in the model output resulting from different sources of variation in the model input (Saltelli et al. 2008). Since a satisfactory modelling practice requires the modellers to

provide an evaluation of the confidence in the model predictions, sensitivity analysis should be a pre-requisite for modelling in any field (Ratto et al. 2001).



Figure 2 Locations of study catchments

In this research study, sensitivity analysis was conducted to determine the influence of the eight parameters discussed above, on simulating peak flow, total runoff volume and total suspended solids (TSS) load. Peak flow and total runoff volume indicate the performance of the quantity simulation while TSS load represents the performance of the water quality simulation since TSS is the one of the most important pollutants in relation to stormwater quality (Sartor and Boyd 1972, Hoffman et al. 1984, Harrison et al. 1985). The Gumbeel catchment model was selected to undertake the sensitivity analysis. The Gumbeel catchment model was the least complex model among the three catchments and included 4 nodes, 3 pipes and 2 subcatchments.

Sensitivity of parameters can be analysed by using the relative sensitivity coefficient S_r (James and Burges 1982, White and Chaubey 2005), which can be represented by Equation 2. The larger the value of S_r , the more sensitive the model output to the parameter.

$$S_r = \left(\frac{x}{y} \right) \left(\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right) \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

S_r - relative sensitivity coefficient

x -the default value of the parameter

y - the output value based on the parameter

x_1, x_2 - default value $\pm 10\%$ of the parameter

y_1, y_2 -the corresponding output values

However, it was noted that not all parameters and the corresponding output values have a positive correlation such as initial loss and total runoff volume. This can lead to a negative value for S_r . In order to overcome this problem, the absolute value of S_r can be used for sensitivity analysis. Therefore, the equation for sensitivity analysis can be represented as follows:

$$S = \left| \left(\frac{x}{y} \right) \left(\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right) \right| \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

The greater the S value, the more sensitive the model output to the parameter.

2.5 Calibration

Model calibration is one of the most important requirements in hydrologic and water quality modelling. It is undertaken to minimise the differences between simulated results and real world conditions. In the model calibration process, selecting appropriate parameters for calibration plays a key role. In the research study, the eight parameters discussed above were adjusted during calibration. A trail-and-error approach was used until an acceptable agreement between observed and simulated results was obtained.

Runoff discharge and TSS concentration recorded at the catchment outlets were applied to compare the goodness-of-fit between observed and simulated values. Two statistical parameters were used to describe the quality of simulation results, namely, the root mean square error (RMSE) and the coefficient of determination (CD) (Loague and Green 1991). The equations used are given below:

$$RMSE = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{(S_i - O_i)^2}{n} \right]^{1/2} \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

$$CD = \sum_{i=1}^n (O_i - \bar{O})^2 / \sum_{i=1}^n (S_i - \bar{O})^2 \quad \text{Equation 5}$$

S -simulated results

O -observed results

\bar{O} -the average value of the observed results

n -the total number of observations

The RMSE value indicates the extent to which the simulations are overestimating or underestimating observed values. The smaller the RMSE value, the closer the simulation result is to the observed data. The CD value describes the ratio of the scatter of the simulated values to that of the observed values. The CD value being close to 1 means that the observed and simulated results match closely.

The rainfall events applied for the calibration of the three catchments are listed in Table 3. These rainfall events were selected based on the availability of recorded runoff discharge and TSS concentrations.

3 Results and discussions

3.1 Build-up parameters from catchments investigation

Based on the collection of build-up samples from road surfaces in the three land uses, a series of build-up parameters were developed. Table 4 gives the build-up parameters derived from the study catchments based on the land use types using the approaches described in Section 2.1.

Table 3 Rainfall events used in the study

Rainfall events	Rainfall depth (mm)	Duration (min)	Antecedent dry days	Application for calibration
2002-04-28	136.8	930	11.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gumbeel: discharge and TSS concentration Birdlife Park: discharge and TSS concentration
2002-06-02	113.0	1260	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gumbeel: discharge and TSS concentration Birdlife Park: discharge
2002-05-03	107.4	1380	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gumbeel: discharge and TSS concentration Birdlife Park: TSS concentration
2002-11-15	201.2	1260	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alextown: discharge and TSS concentration Birdlife Park: TSS concentration
2002-08-25	91.8	1065	2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alextown: discharge and TSS concentration
2002-08-21	261.4	2370	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alextown: discharge and TSS concentration Birdlife Park: discharge and TSS concentration
2002-10-27	107.8	1620	4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birdlife Park: discharge
2002-02-02	36.9	510	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birdlife Park: discharge
2002-06-16	76.7	480	15.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birdlife Park: TSS concentration
2001-12-29	82.5	405	6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gumbeel: discharge

In order to check the accuracy of the build-up parameters which were developed from catchment investigation data, the parameters were input into Equation 1 to calculate the solids build-up values based on the antecedent dry days in the previous research studies undertaken at the same study sites. The calculated build-up values were compared with the measured values from the previous research studies. Table 5 gives the measured solids build-up values and the antecedent dry days for the two previous research studies and the calculated solids build-up values using developed build-up parameters from catchment field investigation data.

Table 4 Build-up parameters derived for the study areas

Land use	Max. build-up (g/m ²)	Removal coefficient (d ⁻¹)	Build-up rate (g/m ² /d)
Residential	1.26-3.52 (1.26)	0.01-0.05 (0.04)	0.05-0.10 (0.05)
Commercial	0.95-1.74 (0.79)	0.03-0.19 (0.16)	0.06-0.20 (0.14)
Industrial	1.94-4.25 (2.31)	0.16-0.95 (0.79)	0.31-2.13 (1.82)

Values shown in parentheses is the data range.

Table 5 Comparison of observed and predicted build-up values

Data sources	Land use	Antecedent dry days	Observed build-up value(g/m ²)	Calculated value using developed parameters (g/m ²)
Data from Herngren et al. (2006)	Residential	2	0.82	0.13-0.69
	Commercial	1	5.29	0.04-0.19
	Industrial	7	2.29	1.32-3.74
Data from Miguntanna (2009a)	Residential	8	2.25	0.46-1.24
	Commercial	11	4.06	0.40-1.24
	Industrial	9	3.44	1.49-3.97

It can be seen from Table 4 and Table 5 that the predicted build-up values using the parameters derived are in close agreement with the values from observed data from previous studies. Industrial land use show the best agreement between observed and predicted build-up values, followed by residential land use. In industrial land use, the predicted values with 7 and 9 antecedent dry days are 1.32-3.74 g/m² and 1.49-3.97 g/m² respectively while the values are 2.29 g/m² and 3.44 g/m² in the previous research studies by Herngren et al. (2006) and Miguntanna (2009b) respectively. In commercial land use, the build-up values are appreciably under predicted. This can be attributed to the different roads where sample collection was undertaken.

3.2 Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis was undertaken for the eight different MIKE URBAN parameters using Equation 3 for peak flow, total runoff volume and TSS load. The results of sensitivity analysis are shown in Table 6. The ranking 1 indicates the largest value of S calculated using Equation 3 for the eight parameters for one particular output. Peak flow and total runoff volume are the most sensitive to Reduction Factor. Reduction Factor was ranked first, whilst TSS load is the most sensitive to Build-up Rate. These results indicate that the change in Reduction Factor can lead to the most significant variation of simulation results in peak flow and total runoff volume calculations whilst Build-up Rate drives the change in TSS load significantly.

The study outcomes can provide guidance in hydrologic and water quality modelling using MIKE URBAN, where sensitive parameters such as Reduction Factor and Build-up Rate should be selected or measured to avoid gross errors in simulation results.

Table 6 Results of sensitivity analysis

Output values	Ranking		
	1	2	3
Peak flow	Reduction Factor	Initial loss	Pipe Manning
Total runoff volume	Reduction Factor	Initial loss	Pipe Manning
TSS load	Build-up Rate	Max. build-up	Wash-off exponent

3.3 Calibration

After calibration for hydrology and water quality in the three catchment models, reasonable agreement between simulated and measured results for both flow discharge and TSS concentrations were obtained. Figure 3 shows the ratio of observed and simulated TSS concentrations from the calibration of the three catchments. Table 7 gives the RMSE and CD values for all discharge calibration results. Table 8 shows the build-up parameters generated from calibration.

As evident in Figure 3, the ratios of observed and simulated TSS concentrations fluctuate along the horizontal line with ratio 1. This means that the simulated TSS concentrations are in close agreement with the observed values in most cases. In terms of discharge calibration results, most of the CD values are close to 1 and the RMSE values range from 0.002 to 0.013. These outcomes show that discharge values obtained from the calibration are reasonable.

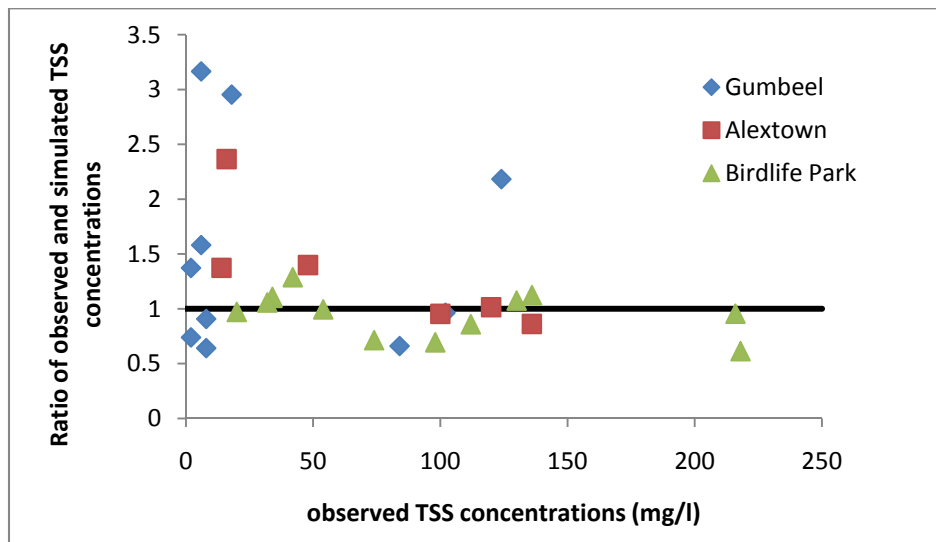


Figure 3 Ratio of observed and simulated TSS concentrations

Table 7 Statistical values for runoff calibration results

Catchments	Rainfall events	CD	RMSE
Gumbeel	2002-04-28	0.64	0.003
	2001-12-29	0.63	0.007
	2002-05-03	0.49	0.003
Alextown	2002-11-15	0.82	0.007
	2002-08-25	0.83	0.002
	2002-08-21	0.72	0.005
Birdlife Park	2002-06-02	0.65	0.011
	2002-08-21	0.89	0.011
	2002-04-28	0.84	0.013
	2002-10-27	0.78	0.013
	2002-02-02	0.87	0.006

Table 8 Build-up parameters from calibration

Catchments	Max. build-up (g/m²)	Removal coefficient (d⁻¹)	Build-up rate (g/m²/d)
All three catchments	37.5	0.085	3.2

In comparing the calibrated build-up parameters to the values of build-up parameters developed from the catchment field investigations, it can be noted clearly that the maximum build-up and build-up rate, which are sensitive to TSS load, show a significant difference. As the model calibration results were generated based on three residential urban catchments, the build-up parameters were compared with the values generated from residential catchment investigations. The calibrated maximum build-up and build-up rate are 37.5 g/m² and 3.2 g/m²/d respectively whilst the two parameters obtained from residential catchment field investigations were 1.26-3.52 g/m² and 0.05-0.1 g/m²/d. The calibrated values are about 10 times the values from the catchment field investigations. This could be attributed to the difference of build-up characteristics in Southeast Queensland, Australia and Northern Hemisphere. However, the removal coefficient from catchment field investigations is reasonably similar to calibrated value (0.085). As the removal coefficient in MIKE URBAN indicates the removal of particles from catchment surface by various mechanisms, including wind, traffic, street sweeping, biological and chemical degradation but except wash-off (MIKE URBAN 2008), the reasonable agreement between the derived value from the catchment field investigation data and the model calibration means that MIKE URBAN confirms the accuracy of replicating pollutant removal mechanisms.

3.4 The comparison of build-up parameters from catchment investigations and calibration

Although the calibrated build-up parameters are significantly different from the catchment field investigation data, it can be noted that the calibrated build-up parameters are in the same order of magnitude as the default values for MIKE URBAN (see Table 2 and Table 4). The possible reason for the difference is attributed to the regional variations as the build-up parameters in MIKE URBAN would typify build-up characteristics for the Northern Hemisphere, whilst the data derived from catchment field investigations represent the build-up characteristics in Southeast Queensland, Australia. This observation confirms important need for deriving location specific parameters for improving the accuracy of catchment modelling results.

In order to develop a detailed understanding of the different build-up characteristics in Australia and Northern Hemisphere, it is necessary to analyse the principles of pollutants transport and mathematical equations adopted by MIKE URBAN. According to MIKE URBAN reference manual (MIKE URBAN 2008), water quality simulations can be performed for pollutants attached to total solids. As described in Section 2.1, total suspended solids (TSS) concentration was simulated in the research study. Therefore, a ratio of TSS to total solids is required as an input parameter in MIKE URBAN water quality simulation. In the research study, the default value for the ratio, 0.1kg/L, was applied and describes that 0.1 kg TSS are attached to 1 litre solids, which is converted by solids density (2650 g/L in MIKE URBAN). On the other hand, in MIKE URBAN

Surface Runoff Quality (SRQ) module, the build-up parameters are only applicable to the fine solids fraction to determine the mass available for transport to the catchment outlet (MIKE URBAN 2008). In this context, the percentage of pollutant load attached to the fine solids fraction also needs to be defined. In the research study, the default percentage, 60%, was taken as the percentage of TSS load attached to the fine solids fraction. Therefore, it can be noted that only a fraction of input solids build-up contributes to the final TSS simulation results. The equation related to the solids and attached pollutants in MIKE URBAN is as follows:

$$M = PL \times S \times FL \quad \text{Equation 6}$$

M- the load of pollutants attached to the fine solids fraction (kg/s)

PL- the ratio of solids and attached pollutants (kg/l)

S- the solids transport of the fine fraction (m³/s)

FL- the percentage of the total pollutant load attached to the fine fraction

Therefore, in the case of the research study, it can be noted that at each time step of the attached pollutant simulation, TSS load transported to the catchment outlet accounts for 6% (0.1 kg/l × 60%) of all input solids as build-up on catchment surfaces. However, it is noteworthy that in Table 1, the total solids build-up from the catchment field investigation, the average percentage of TSS on all solids loads is around 80%. A significant difference (around 10 times) between build-up parameters from catchment field investigations and calibration study was noted. This would imply that there are significantly different pollutants build-up characteristics in SEQ, Australia and the Northern Hemisphere, thus resulting in different parameters values. In SEQ, Australia, TSS accounts for an overwhelming percentage in all accumulated solids on road surfaces while in Northern Hemisphere, the percentage of TSS in all accumulated solids appears to be relatively small. The build-up parameters definition in MIKE URBAN describes the solids with a small percentage of TSS whilst the catchment field investigations undertaken in SEQ, Australia shows the solids contain a relatively very high percentage of TSS.

The study outcomes can provide guidance in the application of MIKE URBAN in SEQ, Australia. In terms of water quality simulation, the input parameters related to build-up would need a corresponding conversion. The conversion is strongly correlated to the ratio of solids and attached pollutants, the percentage of the total pollutant load attached to the fine solids fraction and the percentage of the attached pollutants on solids build-up. It is proposed that the conversion can be represented as follows:

$$BUM = \frac{BUC \times PPC}{PL \times FL} \quad \text{Equation 7}$$

BUM- the input parameters related to build-up in modelling (g/m²)

BUC- the build-up parameters from catchment investigation (g/m²)

PPC- the percentage of attached pollutant on all solids build-up from catchment investigation

According to the results of the sensitivity analysis, build-up parameters are the most sensitive in water quality modelling results. Therefore, the estimation of build-up parameters is critical to ensure the accuracy of water quality modelling results. The conversion equation supplies an approach to estimate the input parameters related to build-up parameters for MIKE URBAN based on field investigation data. Although the conversion equation was developed based on catchments in SEQ, Australia, it provides general guidance for MIKE URBAN modellers to estimate input parameters from catchment field investigation data for other regions, particularly in the case of catchments where monitoring data is not available. Use of field investigation data along with the definition of input parameters in modelling software can be an approach to estimate the values of required input parameters.

4 Conclusions

This paper compared pollutant build-up parameters generated from catchment field investigations and MIKE URBAN model calibration for a number of catchments in Southeast Queensland, Australia. Additionally, the sensitivity of MIKE URBAN input parameters in hydrologic and water quality simulations was undertaken. From the research study undertaken, the following conclusions were derived:

- Among the MIKE URBAN input parameters, Reduction Factor is the most sensitive parameter for peak flow and total runoff volume estimation, whilst Build-up rate is the most sensitive parameter for TSS load estimation. Therefore, these input parameters should be selected carefully or measured accurately for hydrologic and water quality simulations using MIKE URBAN.
- A methodology in which catchment field investigation data is applied as input parameters to MIKE URBAN water quality modelling was developed and an empirical equation for Southeast Queensland, Australia for converting catchment field investigation build-up data for input as MIKE URBAN build-up parameters was derived. This provides guidance for modelling catchments where monitoring data are not available.
- It was found that the input parameters in Southeast Queensland, Australia are significantly different to the default values in MIKE URBAN, which may not necessarily represent the local characteristics. Therefore, the input parameters should be selected carefully based on the region characteristics.

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